

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 14 are independent claims. Claims 1-2, 8-9, 15 and 17-23 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Applicant also respectfully notes the present action indicates that the drawings have been accepted by the Examiner.¹

Applicant draws the Examiner's attention to Applicant's FIG. 2 which shows sub-frame 200, with several sub-frames collectively forming a "channel". Sub-frame 200 including "timeslots", the timeslots depicted as Slot 0, Slot 1 and Slot 2, each timeslot subdivided into "fields", the fields depicted as 215, 215a through 215n.

Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.133(b)

In response to the telephonic interview conducted February 13, 2008, and the Interview Summary dated February 19, 2008, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the interview. Applicant has reviewed the Interview Summary and has found them to be substantially accurate in their description of the substance of the interview.

¹ See December 3, 2007 Office Action Summary, Box 10.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because the Examiner asserts that it is not clear why Applicant is replacing Paragraphs [0026] and [0032], when Applicant ought to be replacing Paragraphs [0024] and [0030].

In telephone discussions between Applicant's representative and the Examiner, it was determined that the revision of Paragraphs [0026] and [0032], made in Applicant's September 28, 2007 Amendment, were in fact the correct paragraphs needing to be revised. Applicant was using the paragraph numbering used in the published application, U.S. Publication No. 2005/0041694. Therefore, Applicant requests entry of the September 28, 2007 paragraph revisions, involving Paragraphs [0026] and [0032] of the published application.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this objection.

Claim Rejections

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 - *Parantainen*

Claims 1-3 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,092,373 ("Parantainen"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to independent claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Parantainen teaches all of the claim limitations. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that Parantainen teaches transmitting control signal data over a control channel shared by a plurality of users.² The Examiner cites column 8, lines 59-66 in making this assertion. Applicant asserts that Parantainen does not teach "transmitting control signal data over a downlink control channel shared by a plurality of users", as recited in claim 1. Specifically, Applicant asserts that the main objective of Parantainen is to

² See Page 3 of the December 3rd Office Action.

provide uplink control information on a shared uplink control channel, to at least two TBFs (users), as stated in column 6, lines 55-58. Applicant submits that Parantainen teaches that downlink transmissions take place on a dedicated channel, such that Parantainen only teaches a shared control channel on the uplink control channel. Specifically, column 9, lines 15-17 of Parantainen states “the actual transmission of downlink data packets takes place on the dedicated communication channel(s) according to block 403.” Because Parantainen only teaches a shared control channel for the uplink control channel, and Parantainen requires a dedicated channel for the downlink control channel, Applicant asserts that Parantainen does not teach “transmitting control signal data over a downlink control channel shared by a plurality of users”, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner also asserts, in his Response to Amendment, that FIG. 5 of Parantainen teaches “fields” identified as TFI-A, TFI-B, and TFI-C and described in column 10, lines 27-32.³ A TFI is not a “field”, but rather it is an indicator used to identify timeslots having a similar association. Specifically, a TFI may include one or more timeslots. Applicant asserts that Parantainen does not teach “the control channel including timeslots, each timeslot including fields identifiable by different ones of the users, each field including control signal data for a specified user for uplink transmission of packet data”, as recited in claim 1. As depicted in FIG. 5, and described in column 10, lines 3-32, Parantainen teaches “downlink *timeslots* TN0, TN1 and TN2 of the downlink TDMA frame 501 are allocated for the TBFs, respectively”. Applicant asserts Parantainen’s TDMA frames, 501 and 502, correspond to Applicant’s sub-frames which form a “channel”, while Parantainen’s “timeslots” correspond to a “timeslot”, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicant asserts that Parantainen does not teach “fields”, as

³ See Page 2 of December 3rd Office Action.

recited in claim 1. Because Parantainen does not teach “fields”, Applicant asserts that Parantainen does not teach “the control channel including timeslots, each timeslot including fields identifiable by different ones of the users, each field including control signal data for a specified user for uplink transmission of packet data”, as recited by claim 1.

With regard to independent claim 14, Applicant asserts that claim 14 includes features similar to claim 1 such that at least the same arguments may be made.

For at least the reasons stated above related to independent claims 1 and 14, Applicant believes these claims to be patentable. For at least the same reasons related to dependent claims 2-13 and 15-17, Applicant also believes these claims to be patentable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection of claims 1-3 and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 – Parantainen in view of Sawada

Claims 4-7, 18, and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Parantainen in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,088,683 (“Sawada”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to independent claim 1, Applicant asserts that a review of Sawada does not remedy the deficiencies of Parantainen, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant asserts that neither Parantainen nor Sawada, singly or in combination, teach or suggest “transmitting control signal data over a downlink control channel shared by a plurality of users, the downlink control channel including timeslots, each timeslot including fields identifying a respective one of the plurality of users, each field including control signal data for a specified user for controlling uplink transmission of packet data by the specified user”, as recited in claim 1.

With regard to independent claim 14, Applicant asserts that the claim includes features similar to claim 1 such that similar arguments can be made.

For at least the reasons stated above related to independent claims 1 and 14, Applicant believes dependent claims 4-7, 18 and 20-22 are patentable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection of claims 4-7, 18, and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 – *Parantainen in view of Tiedemann, Jr.*

Claims 8 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Parantainen in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,054,293 (“Tiedemann, Jr.”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to independent claim 1, Applicant asserts that a review of Tiedemann, Jr. does not remedy the deficiencies of Parantainen, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant asserts that neither Parantainen nor Tiedemann, Jr., singly or in combination, teach or suggest “transmitting control signal data over a downlink control channel shared by a plurality of users, the downlink control channel including timeslots, each timeslot including fields identifying a respective one of the plurality of users, each field including control signal data for a specified user for controlling uplink transmission of packet data by the specified user”, as recited in claim 1.

With regard to independent claim 14, Applicant asserts that the claim includes features similar to claim 1 such that similar arguments can be made.

For at least the reasons stated above relating to independent claims 1 and 14, Applicant believes the dependent claims 8 and 19 to be patentable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection of claims 8 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 – Parantainen in view of Sawada

and further in view of Gardner

Claims 9 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Parantainen in view of Sawada as applied to claims 6 and 21, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,146,174 (“Gardner”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to independent claim 1, Applicant asserts that a review of Gardner does not remedy the deficiencies of Parantainen or Sawada, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant asserts that neither Parantainen, nor Sawada, nor Gardner, singly or in combination, teach or suggest “transmitting control signal data over a downlink control channel shared by a plurality of users, the downlink control channel including timeslots, each timeslot including fields identifying a respective one of the plurality of users, each field including control signal data for a specified user for controlling uplink transmission of packet data by the specified user”, as recited in claim 1.

With regard to independent claim 14, Applicant asserts that the claim includes features similar to claim 1 such that similar arguments can be made.

For at least the reasons stated above related to independent claims 1 and 14, Applicant believes that dependent claims 9 and 23 are patentable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection of claims 9 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 – Parantainen in view of Sawada
and further in view of Tiedemann Jr.

Claims 10-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Parantainen in view of Sawada as applied to claim 6, and further in view of Tiedemann Jr. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to independent claim 1, Applicant asserts that a review of Tiedemann Jr. does not remedy the deficiencies of Parantainen or Sawada, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant asserts that neither Parantainen, nor Sawada, nor Tiedemann Jr., singly or in combination, teach or suggest “transmitting control signal data over a downlink control channel shared by a plurality of users, the downlink control channel including timeslots, each timeslot including fields identifying a respective one of the plurality of users, each field including control signal data for a specified user for controlling uplink transmission of packet data by the specified user”, as recited in claim 1.

With regard to independent claim 14, Applicant asserts that the claim includes features similar to claim 1 such that similar arguments can be made.

For at least the reasons stated above related to independent claims 1 and 14, Applicant believes that dependent claims 10-12 are patentable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection of claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 – *Parantainen in view of Proctor, Jr.*

Claims 13 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Parantainen in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,218,623 (“Proctor, Jr.”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to independent claim 1, Applicant asserts that a review of Proctor, Jr. does not remedy the deficiencies of Parantainen, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant asserts that neither Parantainen nor Proctor, Jr., singly or in combination, teach or suggest “transmitting control signal data over a downlink control channel shared by a plurality of users, the downlink control channel including timeslots, each timeslot including fields identifying a respective one of the plurality of users, each field including control signal data for a specified user for controlling uplink transmission of packet data by the specified user”, as recited in claim 1.

With regard to independent claim 14, Applicant asserts that the claim includes features similar to claim 1 such that similar arguments can be made.

For at least the reasons stated above related to independent claims 1 and 14, Applicant believes that dependent claims 13 and 24 are patentable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection of claims 13 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

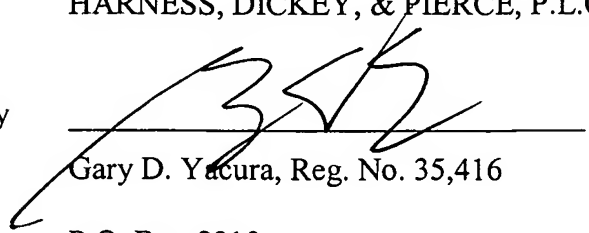
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant hereby petitions for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a reply to the outstanding Office Action and submit the required \$120.00 extension fee herewith.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



Gary D. Yacura, Reg. No. 35,416

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000


GDY/CES/cm